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APR 09 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Applicant: Chakrabarti	)	Art Unit: 2176
	)	
Serial No.: 09/523,639	)	Examiner: Nguyen
	)	
Filed: March 10, 2000	)	AM9-98-128
	)	
For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR DISTRIBUTED	)	April 9, 2006
AUTONOMOUS MAINTENANCE OF	)	750 B STREET, Suite 3120
BIDIRECTIONAL HYPERLINK METADATA ON	)	San Diego, CA 92101
THE WEB AND SIMILAR HYPERMEDIA	)	
REPOSITORY	)	

REPLY BRIEF

This responds to the Examiner's Answer dated April 5, 2006. On page 7 the conferees quote the present specification teaching that inlinks are recorded as some sort of "gotcha" that contradicts Appellant's assertion that Adar et al. does not teach the claims. First, the present specification is not part of the prior art. Second, the quoted part of the specification appears to be irrelevant to the intended "gotcha." Third, the specification is not under examination vis-a-vis Adar, the claims are. In the conferees' resort to the Appellant's specification as the first rebuttal point, the Board may recognize a quiet desperation in the conferees' Answer.

The attempted rebuttal to Appellants' point about a list of bookmarks not being a bookmark does not state what the Board might logically think it should, i.e., that Appellant is mistaken in arguing that the examiner used a list of bookmarks as a bookmark itself, but instead confirms Appellant's point by explicitly admitting on the record that the examiner indeed is using a list of things as the thing itself. Appellant is grateful for the unexpected assistance in reversing the rejections.

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The rebuttal to Appellant's point that a list of bookmarks is not a source page is nearly incomprehensible, rendering a reply problematic.

The rebuttal to Appellant's point about the deficiencies in Jammes is irrelevant. Selecting a hyperlink in the relied-upon portion of Jammes still does not reach the claimed limitation, as indeed is apparent on the face of this portion of the Answer.

As usual, the Answer contains a boilerplate acknowledgement of having to locate the suggestion to combine in the prior art, and as usual promptly misapplies it by laconically stating that the references can be applied because they "are analogous arts", as though mere analogy were more than a threshold test for combining references and instead by itself satisfies *in toto* a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103. For this gross conceptual error alone the rejections merit reversal.

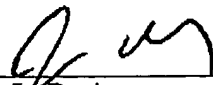
As a bookend to the initial use of Appellant's own specification in rebuttal discussed above, the Answer concludes with another citation to the present specification, as if to emphasize the unfamiliarity of the conferees with the notion that a patent applicant's specification does not form part of the prior art and that the claims, not the specification, constitute the subject matter of patent examination.

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Respectfully submitted,

  
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